GOVERNMENT OF INDIA
HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE
LOK SABHA

UNSTARRED QUESTION NO:4747
ANSWERED ON:09.05.2007
MISUSE OF LETROZOLE
Hasan Chaudhary Munawwar

Will the Minister of HEALTH AND FAMILY WELFARE be pleased to state:

(a) whether the Medicine Letrozole is particularly for the treatment of breast-cancer and is being misused;

(b) if so, the details thereof;

(c) whether some drug companies are promoting through non-cancer specialists; and

(d) if so, the details thereof and the action taken against such companies?

Answer

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF HEALTH & FAMILY WELFARE(SMT. PANABAKA LAKSHMI)

(a)to(c): Letrozole was initially approved on 12.03.98 for treatment of Breast Cancer. Based on the recommendation of experts and safety and efficacy data generated in Indian population. Letrozole has also been approved on 10.04.2007 for induction of ovulation in anovulatory infertility, subject to the condition that it is to be sold in retail only on prescription of a Gynaecologist.

(d): Does not arise in view of reply to parts (a) to (c) above.